

Med Bd E-News

State Medical Board of Ohio
May/June 2014

Greetings from the Medical Board President

Kris Ramprasad, MD

I am delighted to share with all of our readers our new newsletter. Your State Medical Board is constantly striving to find ways to communicate with our licensees in a more easy, efficient, technology friendly way. I hope you will take a few minutes to check out our new look. You can share your suggestions or comments with our Director of Communications, [Mary Courtney Ore](#) . We want to hear from you!

Departing Board Members

I would like to take this opportunity to thank two of our departing Board members. Dr. J. Craig Strafford served for five years and Dr. Lance Talmage served for 15 years. During their tenure, Dr. Strafford and Dr. Talmage each served as Secretary of the Board overseeing the agency's enforcement activities. They brought tremendous insight and leadership to the Board. Their service is appreciated.

Medical Board Weighs in on Zohydro ER®

The State Medical Board is committed to promoting the appropriate treatment of pain. That treatment sometimes involves the use of opioids. However, the desire to treat pain must be balanced against the potential for abuse and misuse that a particular medication may carry with it. The serious risk of addiction and overdose posed by Zohydro ER prompted the State Medical Board to send a letter calling upon the Federal government to limit the medication's availability until a tamper-resistant formulation becomes available. [Read the Board's letter and the response received.](#)

Proposed Suboxone Rule

The proposed rule requires physicians providing office based opioid treatment to practice according to an acceptable treatment protocol for assessment, induction, stabilization, maintenance and tapering; to require each patient to actively participate in appropriate behavioral counseling or treatment for addiction; and to limit the dose to 16 milligrams in most circumstances. The rule is currently in the initial stages of review and can be [accessed here](#).

Are You Signed Up with OARRS?

If you prescribe controlled substances or tramadol the Board strongly encourages you to sign up for OARRS, the Ohio Rx Reporting System. [Sign up here](#).

Read the Medical Board's [Disciplinary Action Report](#)

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State Medical Board of Ohio

June 24, 2014

Greetings from the Medical Board President

Kris Ramprasad, M.D.

Please join me in welcoming Kim G. Rothermel, M.D., to the State Medical Board. Dr. Rothermel is a pediatrician who resides in the Columbus area. Click [here](#) to read more about her appointment.

On June 17, Governor Kasich signed **Ohio House Bills 314 and 341** into law. If you are a prescriber, I urge you to take some time to familiarize yourself with both bills to see how they may impact your practice.

Parental consent required when treating minors with opioids

House Bill 314 requires any prescriber to obtain written informed consent from a minor's parent or guardian prior to writing a prescription for medication containing opioids. Click [here](#) to learn more details regarding HB 314.

HB 341 requires OARRS query under specific circumstances

House Bill 341 requires prescribers of opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines to register to use OARRS and to query the database under certain circumstances. Mandatory OARRS queries will be required effective April 1, 2015. For more information regarding HB 341, click [here](#).

OARRS registration mandatory for certain prescribers

Effective January 1, 2015, OARRS registration will be required for all practitioners who write prescriptions for opioid analgesics and benzodiazepines as specified in House Bill 341. For more information regarding HB 341, click [here](#).

Tramadol to become Schedule IV controlled substance in Ohio

Effective September 1, 2014, tramadol and all products containing tramadol will be classified as a Schedule IV controlled substance in the State of Ohio. Tramadol is an opioid analgesic that produces its primary opioid-like action through an active metabolite. Once adopted, Ohio will join 11 other states and the U.S. military in classifying tramadol as a Schedule IV controlled substance. Click [here](#) to learn more about tramadol's upcoming classification.

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July 2014

Greetings from the Medical Board President

Kris Ramprasad, MD

Please join me in welcoming Andrew Schachat, M.D. to the State Medical Board. Dr. Schachat is an ophthalmologist who serves as Vice Chairman for Clinical Affairs at Cleveland Clinic's Cole Eye Institute. Dr. Schachat resides in the Cleveland area.

Tramadol to become Schedule IV Controlled Substance on August 18th

As of August 18, 2014, tramadol and products containing tramadol will be classified as Schedule IV controlled substances. This classification follows the adoption of a new rule by the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy has issued a [guidance document](#) about this change.

Lyme Disease Testing Notice to Patients

Beginning September 15, 2014, a written notice must be given to patients when ordering a test for Lyme disease. The notice must be signed by the patient or patient's representative and kept in the patient's record. The form is required to make patients aware of the difficulty in diagnosing Lyme disease because the symptoms are often non-specific and found in other conditions. Download the [Lyme Disease Test form](#).

Massage Therapy Definition

Massage therapy is now defined as the treatment of disorders of the human body by the manipulation of soft tissue through the systematic external application of massage techniques including touch, stroking, friction, vibration, percussion, kneading, stretching, compression, and joint movements within the normal physiologic range of motion; and adjunctive thereto, the external application of water, heat, cold, topical preparations, and mechanical devices. The formal definition was added to Section 4731.15 of the Ohio Revised Code in House Bill 483.

Continuing Education Requirements for Massage Therapists

House Bill 483 allows the Medical Board to establish rules defining continuing education requirements for licensure renewal for massage therapists. The Board will provide opportunity for comments as the rule-making process proceeds.

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State Medical Board of Ohio
August /September 2014

Start Talking! Form required beginning September 17th

As of September 17th, Ohio law requires a “Start Talking!” consent form for prescribing opioids to minors before a prescriber issues the first prescription containing an opioid to a minor, unless it is a medical emergency or a specific exception applies. This requirement is included in [Section 3719.061, Ohio Revised Code](#), enacted through HB314. The “Start Talking!” form is separate from any other document used to obtain informed consent for treatment provided to the minor. The law also created Section 4731.22 (B)(48), Ohio Revised Code, which makes failure to comply with the “Start Talking!” requirements a basis for disciplinary action by the Medical Board.

The Medical Board developed a model “Start Talking!” consent form that licensees may use to meet this new requirement. Download the [“Start Talking! Consent Form.”](#)

Lyme Disease Testing Notice to Patients

Beginning September 15, 2014, Ohio law requires that a written notice must be given to patients when ordering a test for Lyme disease. The notice must be signed by the patient or patient’s representative and kept in the patient’s record. Download the [Lyme Disease Test Notice form](#).

Hydrocodone Combination Products (HCP) reclassified as Schedule II controlled substances as of October 6, 2014

Beginning October 6, 2014, all hydrocodone combination products (e.g., Vicodin®, Norco®, Loratab®, Vicoprofen®) will be classified as **Schedule II** controlled substances. This reclassification follows the adoption of a new rule by the DEA. The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy created a [guidance document](#) to assist practitioners in complying with state and federal controlled substance requirements.

Board Addresses HPIO Telehealth Summit

Medical Board President Dr. Kris Ramprasad and Chief Legal Counsel Kimberly Anderson addressed the recent Telehealth Leadership Summit hosted by the Health Policy Institute of Ohio. Dr. Ramprasad indicated he finds the use of telehealth a necessary need for the future and emphasized that telehealth could provide great benefits in the area of child psychiatry as there is a national shortage in this practice area. Dr. Ramprasad also cautioned that proper care should be delivered to patients. Ms. Anderson stressed the Board’s regulations are focused on ensuring that a proper physician-patient relationship exists and that patients have access to appropriate follow-up care and their medical records.

The Board is currently revising its regulations related to prescribing to patients not seen by the physician and internet prescribing. The regulations will soon be sent out for comment.

If you would like the Board to address your organization or group, contact Mary Courtney Ore, Director of Communications at Marycourtney.ore@med.state.oh.us.

Read the Medical Board’s August 2014 [Disciplinary Action Report](#)

If your license expires on October 1, 2014 and you have not renewed your license – [read this!](#)

Med Bd E-News

State Medical Board of Ohio
September 2014

National Drug Take Back Day – Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, for Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is a great way to safely dispose of expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. There are collection sites throughout Ohio operated by the DEA and its state and local law enforcement partners. Visit the [DEA's website](#) to find a drop off site near you.

Hydrocodone Combination Products (HCP) reclassified by DEA as Schedule II controlled substances as of October 6, 2014

A new DEA rule goes into effect on October 6, 2014, that reclassifies all hydrocodone combination products (e.g., Vicodin®, Norco®, Lortab®, Vicoprofen®) from Schedule III to **Schedule II** controlled substances. The Ohio State Board of Pharmacy created a [guidance document](#) to help practitioners comply with state and federal controlled substance requirements impacted by the DEA rule.

Physician Assistant Practice in Urgent Care Centers or Retail Clinics

The Medical Board recently clarified existing statutes and rules regarding PA practice in Urgent Care Centers or Retail Clinics. The practice of PAs may be significantly impacted by the reclassification of hydrocodone combination products to schedule II. PAs with prescriptive authority may NOT prescribe schedule II drugs at an urgent care center unless specific conditions apply. A PA may not, under any circumstances, prescribe any Schedule II drugs at a retail clinic. More information is available on the Medical Board's [website](#).

Prescription of Naloxone to High-Risk Individuals - Joint Regulatory Statement - Updated September 2014

Naloxone is a medication used to counter the effects of opioid overdose. Ohio law now permits authorized prescribers, including physicians, physician assistants and advanced practice nurses, to "personally furnish" or issue a prescription for naloxone to a friend, family member, or other individual in a position to provide assistance to an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

The Medical, Nursing, and Pharmacy Boards updated their [joint regulatory statement](#) to reflect these changes.

Start Talking! Form Now Required

Ohio law requires a "Start Talking!" consent form for prescribing opioids to minors before a prescriber issues the first prescription containing an opioid to a minor, unless it is a medical emergency or a specific exception applies. The "Start Talking!" form is separate from any other document used to obtain informed consent for treatment provided to the minor. Download the model "[Start Talking! Consent Form](#)" from the Medical Board's website.

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